

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

COM USSAG NAKHON PHNOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COGARD POLAD

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SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 15, 1973 EA PRESS SUMMARY

CHINA

1. ALL PAPERS COVER COMMENTS IN TOKYO BY AMERICAN OFFICIALS BACKGROUNDING PEKING COMMUNIQUE. ESSENTIALLY SIMILAR STORIES BY GWERTZMAN (NYT), MARDER (WP), KEAT (SUN) AND CSM'S TOKYO CORRESPONDENT ELIZABETH POND HIGHLIGHT DIFFERENT "NUANCE" IN PRC WORDING ON PRECONDITION FOR FULL NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS, BROADER EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE OF FREQUENT CONTACT (PRESUMABLY IN BOTH DIRECTIONS) AT AUTHORITATIVE LEVELS, EXPANDING APPLICATION OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES IN SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE FROM ASPAC REGION TO WORLD IN GENERAL, AND UPGRADING OF LIAISON OFFICES IN ONGOING PROCESS OF BROADENING RELATIONS. SOURCES ARE VARIOUSLY DESCRIBED AS OFFICIALS IN KISSINGER PARTY (POND AND TOTH), US OFFICIALS (MARDER, KEAT), EITHER A SENIOR US OFFICIAL OR "US OFFICIALS" (GWERTZMAN), AND A HIGH US OFFICIAL (CARTER). CARTER'S OBVIOUSLY TRUNCATED NYDN REPORT SAID US AND PRC WERE "BROUGHT A STEP CLOSER TONIGHT" BY US REDUCTION OF FORCES ON TAIWAN AND SUBTLE CHANGE IN WORDING BY CHOU IN LATEST COMMUNIQUE WHICH "MAY HAVE OPENED A DELICATE

AREA OF EXPLORATION THAT COULD LEAD TO US ESTABLISHING FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS" WHILE MAINTAINING OLD TIES WITH NATIONALISTS. SEVERAL STORIES INCORPORATED "ANNOUNCEMENT" BY US SPOKESMAN ON AIWAN THAT A THIRD OF US FORCES ON ISLAND WOULD BE WITHDRAWN BY END OF YEAR, IMPLYING IT WAS RELATED TO PEKING DEVELOPMENTS.

2. PHINQ CARRIED APPARENTLY SHORTENED VERSION OF TOTH REPORT TO LAT (NOT YET AVAILABLE) WHICH NOTED MOST TANGIBLE RESULTS CAN BE EXPECTED IN EVENTUAL UNCLASSIFIED

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ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS "AND CHINESE HELP IN KEEPING INDOCHINA FROM ERUPTING INTO ANOTHER SHOOTING WAR" (LATTER THEME NOT FOUND ELSEWHERE).

3. PROBABLY CHIEF ELEMENT COMMON TO ALL REPORTS WAS POINT THAT WHILE US STUCK TO ITS SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE WORDING ON STATUS OF TAIWAN, PRC MADE SIGNIFICANT SHIFT IN CALLING MERELY FOR CONFIRMATION OF PRINCIPLE ESSENTIALLY SPELLED OUT BY US IN PREVIOUS SENTENCE; AND THAT "NUANCE" WILL BE EXPLORED IN COMING WEEKS. GWERTZMAN QUOTES SENIOR OFFICIAL AS SAYING WORDING ON TAIWAN HAD BEEN CHOU'S, REFLECTING "HIS KEEN SENSE OF NUANCE".

4. NYT EARLY EDITION REPORTED US OFFICIALS SAYING

THAT AT FAREWELL BANQUET TOAST HAK FELT COMPELLED TO REASSURE CHINESE THAT US POLICY OF PURSUING BETTER RELATIONS WOULD REMAIN CONSTANT; THIS IN AN EFFORT TO PERSUADE PRC MAINTAIN "PACE OF RELATIONS, DESPITE DOUBTS THAT HAVE ARISEN ABOUT DURABILITY OF MR. NIXON'S CHINA POLICY". LATER EDITIONS DROPPED THIS PORTION, SUBSTITUTING COMMENT THAT THE FACT THAT CHINESE MADE NO MENTION IN NEW COMMUNIQUE OF MILITARY WITHDRAWAL "MIGHT INDICATE A CERTAINTY IN PEKING THAT THE US HAD ESSENTIALLY MET THEIR DEMAND TO PULL OUT OF TAIWAN."

5. MARDER SEES IMPLICATION IN PRC SHIFT THAT PEKING IS NOW WAITING FOR US TO TAKE ACTION AT TAIWAN'S EXPENSE THAT WILL ENHANCE ITS CLAIM TO REPRESENT ALL CHINA; PEKING IN TURN WOULD ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS WARRANTS FURTHER NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS.

6. KEAT FINDS HINT OF POSSIBLE DISCORD IN COMMUNIQUE'S DESCRIPTION OF TALKS WITH MAO AS WIDE RANGING, FAR-SIGHTED AND FRIENDLY, WHILE THOSE WITH CHOU HAD MORE RESTRAINED FORMULATION "FRANK AND SERIOUS". NOTES OFFICIALS IN KISSINGER PARTY SAID MEETING WITH MAO HAD CONCENTRATED ON LONG-RANGE MATTERS, THAT WITH CHOU ON CURRENT ISSUES.

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7. REUTER (CSM) OBSERVES THAT US HAS BECOME ONE OF PRC'S LEADING TRADE PARTNERS "WITH DRAMATIC SPEED" SINCE FEB. 1972, AND RELIABLE ESTIMATES EXPECT 1973 TWO-WAY TRADE TO REACH 900 MILLION TO ONE BILLION DOLLARS. US EXPORTS SHOULD PRODUCE SURPLUS OF AT LEAST 800 MILLION DOLLARS FOR US. BETWEEN 150-200 US BUSINESSMEN ARE CURRENTLY AT CANTON FAIR, INCLUDING REPS FROM DEPARTMENT STORES, AND DOW, MONSANTO AND EXXON. RELIABLE SOURCES NOTE THAT US FIRMS HAVE MADE HUGE DEALS WITH CHINA THIS YEAR, AND FEEL THEY WILL CONTINUE DOING SO. HUGE TRADING IN FARM PRODUCTS HAS TAKEN US FAR AHEAD OF AUSTRALIA AND CANADA TO POSITION SECOND ONLY TO JAPAN IN CHINA MARKET.

8. AFP (PEKING) REPORTS MAO TUN'S REAPPEARANCE MONDAY ON OFFICIAL LISTS, FIRST TIME SINCE 1966 DISAPPEARANCE IN FIRST WAVE OF GPCR (WP).

JAPAN

9. GOJ IS REPORTED ANXIOUS TO LEARN FROM KISSINGER STATE OF ME AFFAIRS AND PROSPECTS OF EASING OF OIL CRISIS. NYT'S BUTTERFIELD, IN TOKYO, SAYS JAPANESE HOPE SECRETARY HAS SOME OPTIMISTIC WORD ON WHETHER AND WHEN ARAB STATES MAY RESTORE CUTS IN OIL PRODUCTION;

IF HAK HAS NO GOOD NEWS FOR THEM, JAPANESE OFFICIALS SAY PRIVATELY THEY WILL BE FORCED TO "AGONIZING" SHIFT IN FOREIGN POLICY CLOSER TO ARABS, THUS RISKING ANTAGONIZING US. BUTTERFIELD NOTES "IRONY" IN HAK'S PRESENT MEETING WITH JAPANESE: TOKYO TRIP WAS ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO KEEP GOJ INFORMED ON US CHINA POLICY; NOW, HOWEVER, JAPANESE SEEM LITTLE INTERESTED IN HEARING ABOUT HAK'S TALKS WITH MAO AND CHOU.

10. CITING SILENCE OF OHIRA AND HAK ABOUT THEIR FIRST ROUND OF TALKS, SUN'S PEPPER SAYS ALL JAPANESE PUBLIC LEARNED OF PROSPECTIVE WORLD OIL SHORTAGES ON DAY AFTER HAK'S ARRIVAL WAS THAT THEIR BARS AND CABARETS WILL SOON CLOSE EARLY AND THAT GAS STATIONS WILL SHUT DOWN ON WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS.

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11. CSM'S POND, IN TOKYO, SUGGESTS THAT "EVEN MORE LOVABLE" MIGHT BE JCP'S MOTTO THIS WEEK AS PARTY CONGRESS MOVES FURTHER TO SHUCK OFF ITS OLD REVOLUTIONARY IMAGE. CONGRESS NOW SAYS IF JCP JOINS GOVT., IT WOULD KEEP EMPEROR BUT TIGHTEN RESTRICTIONS ON HIS POLITICAL ACTIVITIES; WOULD NOT IMMEDIATELY DISMANTLE

JAPANESE MILITARY FORCES, UNLESS POPULAR CONSENSUS FAVORS IT; WOULD IMMEDIATELY NATIONALIZE ONLY ENERGY INDUSTRY. NEW COALITION POLICY ALSO IMPLIES THAT JCP WOULD NOT ABROGATE MST AND WOULD NOT DECLARE NEUTRALITY UNLESS DIET APPROVES. SOUTHERLAND (CSM), IN MANILA, REPORTS THAT DUE TO US FAILURE TO COME UP WITH EXPECTED ADB CONTRIBUTIONS, JAPAN HAS BEEN THRUST INTO AWKWARD POSITION AS ADB'S NEW "LEADING MEMBER" -- POSITION IT DID NOT SEEK. GOJ WAS ALREADY PLAYING PROMINENT ROLE IN THAT ADB PRESIDENT ALWAYS JAPANESE; BUT OFFICIALS BELIEVE IF ADB BECOMES FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS "JAPANESE BANK," IT WILL NOT HELP ADB IMAGE WITH EITHER BORROWERS OR LENDERS. NOT ONLY DO JAPANESE FEEL THEY ARE "TOO FAR OUT IN FRONT," BUT ADB EUROPEAN MEMBERS ARE DESCRIBED BY ONE BANK OFFICIAL AS "BIT JUMPY" ABOUT JAPANESE PROMINENCE IN ITS AFFAIRS. NO FAVORITISM HAS BEEN SHOWN JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN; THEY "HAVE SIMPLY BEEN MORE AGGRESSIVE" AND HAVE BENEFITTED FROM THEIR PROXIMITY TO SOME PROJECTS AND (UNTIL RECENTLY) FROM FAVORABLE EXCHANGE RATES.

12. JOC'S CULLISON, IN TOKYO, REPORTS JAPANESE DOCKWORKERS CONTINUED SERIES OF SPORADIC STRIKE ACTIONS AT COUNTRY'S SEVEN PORTS WEDNESDAY, BUT WALKOUTS HAVE BEEN FAR LESS THAN EFFECTIVE.

KOREA

13. GODSELL (CSM) REPORTS ASIAN DIPLOMATS ESTIMATE
BETWEEN 70 AND 80 NK PILOTS AND 20 TO 70 COMMANDO
TRAINING OFF

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TAIPEI
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BIEN HOA
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